

# Yarrunga EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### NOVEMBER 2020

Yarrunga's Annual General Meeting - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>

### DECEMBER 2020

Last day for Children - Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

### JANUARY 2021

Children return - Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2020

### YARRUNGA'S CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

The last day for children will be on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December. The first day back will be Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Please ensure that your fees are paid up to the end of the year and there will be no fees charged for the period we are closed 24/12/2020-10/1/2021

### Educators rooms for 2020:

Nursery: Nicole, Emma, Lesley and Serena

Junior Preschool: Krystine, Chrissy, Julie, Tash & Deb

Preschool: Alana and Natt

Float staff: Jay, Carly, Robyn and Jodie



### Christmas at Yarrunga

Due to Covid-19 restrictions on gatherings, Christmas will look a bit different at Yarrunga this year. While it is very unfortunate that we cannot hold our usual Christmas party, we will be celebrating in the following ways:

- Educators will film the children participating in the 'Christmas Concert' and post the videos to the closed Facebook group.
- We will have Christmas lunch with all the children across all rooms during the last week of the year (no parents unfortunately).
- Preschool graduation will go ahead in smaller groups over a week. The Preschool team will communicate this in the coming weeks.

### YARRUNGA'S ANNUAL

### GENERAL MEETING

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S

AGM WILL BE HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020

@ 7.00PM

Please RSVP to Lisa by 13<sup>th</sup> November due to COVID-19 Restrictions. If our numbers exceed restrictions, we will create an online link.

## CHILDREN'S T-SHIRTS & JUMPERS

If you would like to order a t-shirt or shirts or jumpers for your child/ren, order forms will be available in the office - Shirts \$12.00, Jumpers \$25 each  
Please see Lisa or Karen



## WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK!

How can we make our newsletter better?

What information would you like us to include?

Call us on: (02) 60217597

Or EMAIL [admin@yarrunga.com.au](mailto:admin@yarrunga.com.au)





Yarrunga can now be followed  
on Facebook and Instagram



## WET BAGS

We have several wet bags left, if anyone would like one or two please see Karen or Lisa in the office, they are \$5 each.

## COVID-19 Practices at Yarrunga

| Physical Distancing  | Hand Hygiene   | Unwell, Stay Home   |
|--|--|---|
|   |   |    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use of separated Sign-in stations</li><li>• Observe pedestrian pathways</li><li>• Avoid congestion at gates and doorways</li><li>• If possible, limit attendance to one parent/carer for pickup/drop off</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sanitise hands prior to operating front gate and sign in iPad. Should you cough/sneeze/touch your face, please re-sanitise</li><li>• Assist your child in washing their hands on arrival to room and prior to engaging in play</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If your child is unwell, please keep them home</li><li>• Please support our Educators when the decision is made to send a child home as it is made to protect the health and wellbeing of all</li></ul> |

**ALLERGIES REMINDER:**

**WE HAVE A NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE SERIOUS ALLERGIC REACTIONS TO EGG, NUTS AND SESAME.**

**YARRUNGA IS AN EGG AND NUT FREE CENTRE.**

**NURSERY ROOM NEWS**

Dear nursery/toddler families

It has been a busy month with lots of things happening in our room. As you know Jung Eun is with her family in Korea and in her place, we are lucky to have Jodie working with us. We also have our student Emily Owens whom by now you would have all met. Emily will be observing your children as part of her course at CSU. You may notice some of the changes to our outdoor area please come and check out our new synthetic grass which we are sure the children will enjoy, especially now the weather is warming up and they like to take their shoes off. We have been learning about the cycle of bees which is an ongoing project along with our herbs that the children are keen to care for through watering and picking. Dramatic play is a big part of our curriculum now as per the children's interests, we have provided them with real cooking equipment on the veranda as well as in the sandpit. Baby dolls, prams and capsules are also part of our role play and language skills.

We have also included boxes and cardboard tubes for our children to appreciate using natural resources and for us all to be sustainable. We are on the lookout for any loose parts that you may have lying around at home to be used for this play. Loose parts may be drink containers, cardboard tubes, pinecones, bark, shells.



Nicole, Lesley, Jay, Jodie and Serena

[Nurserytoddler@yarrunga.com.au](mailto:Nurserytoddler@yarrunga.com.au)

## PRESCHOOL ROOM NEWS

This month we had Blake come in and finish up his placement with us for his studies. The children enjoyed his involvement within our room and the activities that he did with us. It was lovely to see him doing music and a treasure hunt.

We have been getting back into the community, going for walks when we can. We have been for a trip to the park at the end of the bike path and went to see the trucks over the bridge. We even got to roll down a big, grassy hill, which we all thoroughly enjoyed! We also went for a trip down to a construction site that one of our parents is working on now. The children got to see an excavator at work, and our plumber friend donated us cut off pipes to take back to Yarrunga. The children used these as robot arms on the walk back, and you will now see them in the sandpit or around the yard as tunnels for balls, or car ramps.



The gates have started to be opened now, allowing for all children to experiences the two yards and rooms, challenging themselves on different obstacles, and providing peer scaffolding for the younger children.



Rinelda, one of our mothers, has been coming in to share their language with us. We have been learning Afrikaans with her, attempting to learn new songs, words, and numbers. This has been great for our children to experience as it broadens their knowledge about their world.



The children have been participating in cubby house building with Krystine. We have made a more permanent cubby area on our back verandah for the children to explore. They have still been enjoying our Ooshie Kingdom as this is our popular culture reference in our room.

Krystine, Natt, Netty, Julie and Tash.

[preschool@yarrunga.com.au](mailto:preschool@yarrunga.com.au)

## JUNIOR PRESCHOOL NEWS

What a busy month we have had, and no doubt it's going to get even crazier and seemingly faster, as we head towards Christmas and New Year's!

The return to our open-gate practice and allowing learners to move freely between the top and bottom yards has been a smash hit with children across both in our room and the Preschool. Older children are relishing the opportunity to mentor and role model to younger siblings and peers, while our class are loving the chance to explore the yard and undertaking more challenging physical tasks. This venture empowers children to explore their interests and allows them to exercise autonomy in their learning and explorations, thereby enhancing their engagement in the program.



Our back yard renovations are starting to take shape, with Sam's sustained effort and a good many fore-people supervising and observing from the room, questioning what's happening and being in awe of the different props being utilised for the project.



Extending on this interest, Preschool and Junior Preschool father, Michael, invited us to a job site that he is working on. A small group of Juniors accompanied the Preschool class and were fascinated by the machinery on the lot as they maneuvered around the vacant block and even came close enough for the learners to observe how they operate.



A highlight for many on the day was the poly-pipe that Michael donated and has made its home in our sandpits, creating ball runs and waterways for architects and engineers to investigate physics and gravity.



A warm thank you to Chris, who was able to bring in a police car to show the children in attendance. They were captivated by the flashing lights and were excited to find them on the front, rear and top of the car.

This was a brilliant opportunity to showcase local community helpers and heroes, discussing their roles in keeping us safe.



With the warmer weather, we are enjoying the opportunity to extend our sensory play, incorporating water play into our curriculum. This is often synonymous however with messy play, with participants ending up drenched and / or covered in wet sand! Please be mindful of this and ensure that your child has at least one seasonally appropriate change of clothes in their bag each day (more if toilet training). It is helpful when ensuring that clothing is returned to its rightful owner if underwear and clothes are labelled with their name.



Have a great month everyone. Until December,

Alana, Chrissy, Emma, Julie, and Robyn  
[juniorpreschool@yarrunga.com.au](mailto:juniorpreschool@yarrunga.com.au)



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**NO FOOD FROM HOME!** A reminder that we have children attending Yarrunga with severe allergies to egg, dairy, nut, and sesame. Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. We want to do our best to keep those at risk safe.

Please refrain from bringing food from home.

If you are bringing treats to share for your child's birthday, please check with room educators for allergies prior.

### Yarrunga Policies:

Just a reminder to families and for all our new family's information - our policies can be accessed on our website [www.yarrunga.com.au](http://www.yarrunga.com.au) and the password is 2640

### Recipe of the month - Butter Chicken

#### Ingredients:

- 600g chicken, diced
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 large onion, diced
- 1 tablespoon grated fresh ginger (or 1 teaspoon dried ginger)
- 2 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon garam masala
- 1 teaspoon curry powder
- 1 teaspoon ground coriander
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper (OPTIONAL, omit if you do not like the heat!)
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 4 generous tablespoons of tomato paste (or small can of tomato soup)
- 1 (410g) can full day coconut milk



#### Method:

Heat the oil and brown the chicken.

In a separate saucepan heat oil and add onion and sauté for 2-4 minutes. Lower heat. Add ginger and garlic and cook for a further minute. Add the spices, salt, tomato paste (or soup) and the coconut milk. Stir until smooth and combined, gently simmer for 5-10 minutes, stirring frequently. Add the chicken to the sauce and stir to coat.

Serve with pasta, rice, naan bread and chopped parsley and coriander.

### ***Educational Leader:***

Educators have been further discussing mixed age grouping as we observe children's interactions with peers and educators while the gates are open between the Junior Preschool and Preschool yards. Krystine will share some more information via our Yarrunga Facebook Group in the coming weeks.

We are going to be holding "Super Hero Week" from the 23<sup>rd</sup> November – 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

Please dress your child in their favourite super hero character and all money raised will aid Muscular Dystrophy.

We will share the link for you to donate via Face Book and email.



## Grievance Policy

If parents have any concerns or complaints, please follow the attached Grievance Policy

### 1 Informal Resolution of Grievances

Initially any grievance raised will be approached in an informal manner.

(Informal Procedure for Resolution of Grievance). If required, an appointment time with the Centre Director and/or

President of the Management Committee

Kathryn Chandler (phone 0457 717 624) to discuss the grievance can be arranged.

### 2 Formal Resolution of Grievances

2.1 In the event informal processes are unable to be used or informal processes fail to achieve a satisfactory outcome for any of the parties involved in the grievance, the formal process will then be used. Determining whether the grievance will be handled formally is at the discretion of the Director/President of Management Committee based on feedback from the concerned parties at the conclusion of the informal stage (Formal Procedure for Resolution of Grievance).

2.2 **When a formal resolution of grievance is pursued, all interactions must be documented by the Director (Complaint form), signed (by Director and or parties involved), and a copy given to each party concerned.**

2.3 Any allegation that the safety, health or wellbeing of a child has been compromised, or relating to a staff member, the details of action taken in response to a complaint will be recorded and kept in a confidential place.

### 3 Regulatory Authority – ACECQA

3.1 The Nominated Supervisor or Certified Supervisor will notify (within 24 hours of the complaint being made) ACECQA of a complaint that alleges

- a serious incident has occurred or is occurring while a child is being educated and cared for by Yarrunga.
- the National Law and/or National Regulations have been contravened.

The required Forms to be completed are;

**Notification of Complaints and Incidents (Other than serious Incidents)** as required by the Education & Care Services National Regulations – through the National Quality Agenda IT System (NQA IT System). Log in to access the portal.

A scanned copy of the written complaint will be uploaded prior to submitting the form electronically.



# Healthy Lunch Box website

A one-stop-shop for everything you need to know about packing a healthy lunch box.



## Here's what you'll find on the website:

- Interactive lunch box builder that helps parents and kids plan and pack a healthy lunch with foods they like.
- Lots of quick and easy recipes and snack ideas.
- Informative blogs about healthy eating for the family.
- Sign up to receive the Healthy Lunch Box e-newsletter for ideas, updates and recipes.

[healthylunchbox.com.au](http://healthylunchbox.com.au)



**Cancer Council**  
Healthy Lunch Box